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NOTE AND COMMENT.

THE LAW SCHOOL.—The Law School opens with an attendance of 500, the decrease from last year's numbers (on account of the increased requirements for admission) being less than was anticipated.

Mr. Grover C. Grismore, a graduate of the Law School in the class of 1914, and a former member of the Board of Editorial Assistants of the MICHIGAN LAW REVIEW, has been added to the teaching staff as an instructor. There are no other changes in the teaching staff.

Ninety-one colleges and universities are represented in the Law School this year by graduates and former students. They are as follows:

University of Michigan, 258; University of Nebraska, 8; University of Colorado, University of Missouri, Valparaiso University, 7; Princeton University, University of Illinois, 6; University of Wisconsin, Mount Union College, 5; Pennsylvania State College, Lake Forest University, Olivet College, Bucknell College, 4; Cornell University, Philippine College of Law, University of Indiana, University of Montana, Alma College, University of Kansas, Amherst College, Lafayette College, Mount Pleasant Normal College, 3; Wabash College, Kalamazoo College, Marshall College, University of Texas, University of Southern California, Hope College, South Dakota College, Oregon State College, University of Chicago, Bethany College, Harvard

University, Albion College, De Pauw University, University of Minnesota, Drake University, 2; Adrian College, Agricultural College of Utah, Augustana College, Bowdoin College, Brown University, Buena Vista College, Chattanooga College, University of Cincinnati, Carthage College, Coe College, Columbia University, Colgate University, Dartmouth College, Detroit University, Earlham College, Edinboro State Normal, Findlay College, Fremont College, University of Georgia, Goshen College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Hamline University, Henderson-Brown College, Hiram College, Huron College, Illinois State Normal College, Iowa State College, Jefferson College, Kansas State Normal College, University of Kentucky, Knox College, Lebanon College, Mansfield State Normal, Marietta College, Muhlenberg College, Notre Dame University, University of Oklahoma, Oregon Agricultural College, Pennsylvania State Normal, Pomona College, St. Viator's College, St. Bonaventure's College, University of California, Upper Iowa University, U. S. Naval Academy, University of Virginia, University of Wooster, Wesleyan University, Westminster College, West Virginia State University, Washington and Lee University, Western State Normal College, Yale College, Ypsilanti Normal College, 1.

JURISPRUDENCE: A FORMAL SCIENCE.—HOLLAND defines jurisprudence as "the formal science of positive law" ("JURISPRUDENCE," 10th ed., p. 13). The meaning of science is plain enough. A good many pages are devoted to the elucidation of the words "positive" and "law," but the term "formal" he explains only by analogy. As there is a formal science of grammar to which belongs, for example, the concept of possession, which has its material manifestation in Latin grammar in a genitive termination and in English grammar in the preposition "of," so there is a formal science of law, material manifestations of whose fundamental principles are found in various systems of actual legal rules. It is manifest that formal is used here as the synonym of essential, and if the latter word were substituted for the former it would materially clarify the definition for many students of jurisprudence. In a forthcoming volume of the "LEGAL PHILOSOPHY SERIES" (Volume X) the Italian of DEL VECCHIO's title, "I presupposti filosofici della notizione del diritto" is paraphrased as "The Formal Bases of Law," and as there is likely to be the same difficulty of interpretation here as in HOLLAND's definition some account may not be amiss as to why formal means essential as well as non-essential and how it came to have the two opposite meanings.

It may be noted that the use of formal as the synonym of essential seems to be peculiar to philosophic nomenclature and it may therefore be surmised that we must go to ancient philosophy for an explanation. Juristic philosophers as well as metaphysicians in general have always set before themselves the task of getting at the ultimate truth back of their subject, and although it is a brave man that would attempt to define philosophy or to formulate the ultimate purpose of philosophers, still as we go back over the history of the subject they all seem to be striving to get an answer to PILATE's question: "What is truth?" What is the real essence of things? What do we mean when we say a thing "is"? What is that something that we must think by virtue of our common intelligence—that something that is true for all times and in all places? The juristic philosopher, like his brother the pure metaphysician, in asking this question. He is